competent authorities obtained. The Government does not approve of bureaucratic dominance and is committed to clear and implement new projects in a time-bound manner.

Internet Telephony

1847. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to provide the benefits of Internet Telephony to the customers from April 1, 2002;

(b) if so, how many customers would be benefited; and

(c) out of which, how many customers in Karnataka would be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) With opening of Internet Telephony, the customers are likely to be benefited with the availability of a cheaper option with less quality of voice transmission, for the long distance call. It is difficult to quantify the number of customers that would be benefited, at this point of time.

Reliance plan to destroy VSNL

1848. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:
SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'how reliance plans to destroy VSNL with libralisation of telecom' as appeared in the Asian Age, New Delhi dated the 27th April, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government and CBI have initiated an inquiry into sharp upward movement in the entire dealing occurred by one Vice-President based at Mumbai of Reliance telecom; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof?